

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) An image sensing apparatus comprising:
2 a solid-state image sensing device having an electronic shutter to
3 convert light from an object into an image signal;
4 a mechanical shutter, provided between the object and the solid-
5 state image sensing device, to expose the solid-state image sensing
6 device to the light for a first exposure period and a second exposure
7 period that directly follows the first exposure period, the first and the
8 second periods being the same length in time; ~~each exposure period for~~
9 ~~exposing the solid-state image sensing device to the light corresponding~~
10 ~~to one frame or one field of the object;~~
11 a shift mechanism ; to shift change a relative positional relationship
12 between a passage of the light that has passed the mechanical shutter
13 and incident to the solid-state image sensing device ~~in a predetermined~~
14 ~~direction with respect to~~ and the solid-state image sensing device ~~at least~~
15 for a period from a moment in the first exposure period to another
16 moment in the second exposure period; and
17 a processor to combine image signals converted for the first and
18 the second exposure periods to generate a composite image signal,
19 wherein the mechanical or the electronic shutter is switched from a
20 closed state to an opened state to start the first exposure period and the
21 mechanical shutter is switched from the opened state to the closed state
22 to finish the second exposure period.
- 1 2. (Canceled).
- 1 3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the
2 shift mechanism includes an optical low-pass filter that rotates between

3 two predetermined positions to ~~shift~~ change the ~~passage of light in the~~
4 ~~predetermined direction~~ relative positional relationship, wherein the
5 optical low-pass filter starts to rotate at a moment within the first exposure
6 period and stops at another moment within the second exposure period, a
7 period for which the optical low-pass filter rotates in the first exposure
8 period and another period for which the optical low-pass filter rotates in
9 the second exposure period being equal to each other.

1 4. (Currently Amended) A method of image sensing using a solid-state
2 image sensing device having an electronic shutter for converting light
3 from an object into an image signal, the method comprising the steps of:
4 exposing the solid-state image sensing device via a mechanical
5 shutter to the light for a first exposure period and a second exposure
6 period that directly follows the first exposure period, the first and the
7 second periods being the same length in time, ~~each exposure period for~~
8 ~~exposing the solid-state image sensing device to the light corresponding~~
9 ~~to one frame or one field of the object;~~
10 switching the mechanical or the electronic shutter from a closed
11 state to an opened state to start the first exposure period;
12 switching the mechanical shutter from the opened state to the
13 closed state to finish the second exposure period;
14 ~~shifting~~ changing a relative positional relationship between a
15 passage of the light incident to the solid-state image sensing device in a
16 ~~predetermined direction with respect to~~ and the solid-state image sensing
17 device at least for a period from a moment in the first exposure period to
18 another moment in the second exposure period; and
19 combining image signals converted for the first and the second
20 exposure periods to generate a composite image signal.

1 5. (Canceled).

- 1 6. (New) The method according to claim 4 comprising the step of starting to
2 rotate an optical low-pass filter at a moment within the first exposure
3 period and stopping the optical low-pass filter at another moment within
4 the second exposure period between two predetermined positions to
5 change the relative positional relationship, a period for which the optical
6 low-pass filter rotates in the first exposure period and another period for
7 which the optical low-pass filter rotates in the second exposure period
8 being equal to each other.